REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 to 3, 7, 8 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Menet et al. (USPAP 2002/0106444) in view of Werner et al. (DE 19650125). Claims 4 to 6 and 14 were objected to, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 4 to 6 and 14 were objected to, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. In light of the comments below, withdrawal of the objections to claims 4 to 6 and 14 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 1 to 3, 7, 8 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Menet et al. (USPAP 2002/0106444) in view of Werner et al. (DE 19650125).

Menet discloses a device for applying a release agent to rolls for casting continuous metal strips. Before entering the rolls, the metal is in liquid state and the rolls cool it into a sold state. See [0028]. A dilution of a release agent is applied to the rolls to prevent sticking. See [0035].

Werner (DE 19650125) discloses a method and device for supplying a printing paste to carpets.

Claim 1 recites a cooling roll stand comprising:

a device for applying a liquid mixture of a silicone oil concentrate and at least water to a web-shaped printing material, the device having:

a reservoir for the silicone oil concentrate,

a supply source for the water,

a mixing tank for the silicone oil concentrate and the water,

an applicator for transferring the liquid mixture onto the printing material, the applicator having at least one container for the liquid mixture, and

a buffer tank for the silicone oil concentrate separated from the mixing tank, the buffer tank receiving the silicone oil concentrate from the reservoir; and

a cooling roll for the web-shaped printing material.

Menet does not disclose supplying any mixture to "a web shaped-printing material" as claimed, but rather supplying a diluted release agent which is contacted by a liquid metal. The casting device of Menet is a completely different field than the printing field of the present invention, and it is respectfully submitted that one could not print the liquid metal of Menet.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have combined the textile printing teachings of Werner to the Menet device to result in the present claimed invention. Werner teaches about printing textiles and discusses how to dose dyes. Any teachings about printed webs of material, buffers or other mixing relates to dyes and textiles, and not to release agents and liquid metal casting as used in Menet. It is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have used the dyes or the dye related dilution in Werner to dilute the release agents in Menet.

In addition, neither Menet nor Werner teach or show "a buffer tank for the silicone oil concentrate separated from the mixing tank, the buffer tank receiving the silicone oil concentrate from the reservoir" as Werner relates to dyes. Also, Menet teaches away from using a separate buffer tank, as it specifically states that if a buffer tank is to be used, it is to be used to replace the mixer, not in addition to the mixer. See [0045] of Menet: "Said mixer may **be** ...a buffer tank."

There is absolutely no teaching or disclosure in Werner to provide a buffer tank in a continuous metal casting field. One of skill in the art would not have seen any reason for such a buffer tank, and Menet specifically teaches that any such buffer tank is to replace the mixer.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1 to 3, 7, 8 and 15 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,
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